Development of Handicrafts

184. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will be Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance granted by Government for development, promotion and upliftment of handicrafts in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme for development of handicrafts in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN):

(a) The details of financial assistance released to various organisation for development, promotion and upliftment of handicrafts in the country during the last three years is as under:-

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Years	Amount Released
1.	2000-2001	2915.21
2.	2001-2002	2293.77
.3.	2002-2003	2732.63

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY) has been recently formulated which seeks to develop selected artisans cluster into professionally managed self-reliant community enterprise working on the principle of effective member participation and mutual cooperation and aims to achieve sustainable development of the sector.

With the launching of the scheme in the year 2001-02, a total number of 288 projects have been sanctioned so far under the AHVY and an amount of Rs.1543.40 lakhs has been released for the purpose.

Special promotional schemes for handloom sector

†185. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of. TEXTILES be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.